

SQUAMISH-LILLOOET REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW NO. 848-2003

A by-law to establish and set out the appointment and procedure to be followed by the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

The Regional Board of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

Title

1. This by-law may be cited as "Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Electoral Area C Agricultural Advisory Committee By-law No. 848-2003".

Establishment of Agricultural Committee

2. There is hereby established the "Electoral Area C Agricultural Advisory Committee".

Definitions

3. In this Bylaw:
 - a) "**Board**" means the board of the Squamish Lillooet Regional District;
 - b) "**Committee**" means the Electoral Area C Agricultural Advisory Committee;
 - c) "**Member**" means a person appointed to the Committee by the board;
 - d) "**Planning Staff**" means employees of the Board employed in the Planning and Development Department

Purpose of the Committee

4. The purpose of the Committee is to provide comments and recommendations to the board on agricultural issues within the Pemberton Valley and other parts of Electoral Area C referred to the Committee by the board.

Matters that may be Considered

5. The board may refer the following matters to the Committee:
 - a) applications initiated under the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*;
 - b) applications to amend Official Community Plans and Zoning Bylaws that affect agricultural lands, the Agricultural Land Reserve, or that may have implications for the agriculture sector;
 - c) agricultural related components of comprehensive reviews or development of:

- i) Zoning and other Bylaws;
 - ii) Official Community Plans;
 - iii) Agricultural area plans;
 - iv) Pemberton “fringe area” policies;
 - v) Park and recreation plans; and
 - vi) Transportation plans;
- d) subdivision applications for lot line adjustments in the Agricultural Land Reserve which have been submitted to the Approving Officer under Part 5 of the *Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation*;
 - e) provincial crown land referrals for non-farm uses within, adjacent to, or potentially impacting on agricultural areas;
 - f) variance requests regarding the size, siting, etc. of buildings and structures in agricultural areas;
 - g) building permit applications for additional dwellings for farm help within the Agricultural Land Reserve;
 - h) major development proposals with potential impacts on agriculture in Electoral Area C;
 - i) other matters which the board may consider appropriate.

5.1 The Committee may make recommendations to the Board, for the Board’s consideration, on matters that deal with the ongoing viability of commercial farming and farm land usage within the Agricultural Land Reserve lands within Electoral Area C. (*Amendment Bylaw No. 884-2006*)

Focus of Committee Reviews

- 6. The Committee shall consider the following in its review of referrals from the board:
 - a) the effect of the proposal on the agricultural potential of the subject property;
 - b) the effect of the proposal on adjacent Agricultural Land Reserve properties and surrounding agricultural production;
 - c) the effect of the proposal on water resources and transportation issues;
 - d) possible alternatives to the proposal, where appropriate; and
 - e) the identification of issues relating to the protection of the Agricultural Land Reserve lands specific to the application, including the use of appropriate buffering techniques aimed at enhancing land use compatibility.
- (Amendment Bylaw No. 884-2006)*

Membership

7. The Committee shall consist of a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 11 members appointed by the Regional Board, and committee members shall primarily be selected from:
 - a. the farming and ranching community,
 - b. the agricultural product processing and distribution sectors.

(Amendment Bylaw No. 1184 – 2010)

Term of Appointment

8. In the first year of the Committee, one half of the members shall be appointed for a term to expire on December 31st of the year in which they were appointed and one half of the members shall be appointed for a term to expire on December 31st of the year following the year of their appointment.
9. All subsequent appointments to the Committee shall be for a two year term. *(Amendment Bylaw No. 1184, 2010)*
10. If appointments to the Committee have not been reviewed by the Regional Board before the expiration of the term of the members, members appointed to the Committee shall continue to hold office until the annual membership has been determined. *(Amendment Bylaw No. 1107, 2008)*

Removal of Member

11. The board shall have the power, by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of all the members, to remove any member from the Committee at any time upon the recommendation of the Electoral Area C Director.

Replacement of Member

12. Upon the resignation, death or removal of a member during a term of office, the board shall appoint a new member, who shall hold office during the remainder of the term of the vacating member.

Appointment of Chair

13. A Committee shall elect, from its members at the first meeting of each year a Chair who shall hold office for one year or until their successor has been appointed.
14. The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Committee and in his or her absence those present may appoint an acting Chair for the duration of that meeting.

Quorum

15. A majority of the members appointed to the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Voting

16. Each Committee member who is present is entitled to vote and has one vote.
17. Recommendations of the Committee must be adopted by a majority affirmative vote of the members present at the meeting.
18. A committee member present at a meeting who abstains from voting is deemed to have voted in the affirmative.

(Amendment Bylaw No.1184 - 2010)

Meetings Open to the Public

19. Committee meetings shall be open to the public.
20. The Committee shall hear all applicants who wish to make representations on applications, bylaws or other matters referred to it by the Board and it shall be the responsibility of such applicants wishing to make representation to contact the Chair of the Committee for the purpose of attending a meeting.
21. The Agricultural Advisory Committee may invite persons to attend meetings in a resource capacity.

Notice of Meeting and Other Matters

22. Notice of meeting and all other procedures of the Committee not specifically provided for shall be in accordance with the provisions of Squamish Lillooet Regional District Procedural Bylaw No. 658, 1998.

Participation by Staff

23. Planning Staff and Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Agricultural Land Commission staff may attend Committee meetings and participate in discussions but shall not be entitled to vote on any matters.

Secretary

24. A recording secretary shall be provided by the board who shall record the proceedings of the Committee.
25. The minutes of the proceedings of all meetings of the Committee shall be legibly recorded and forwarded to the officer assigned responsibility for corporate administration who shall pass these minutes to the Board for their review. The minutes shall be certified and adopted by the Committee at its next meeting.

Conflict of Interest

- 26. Where a member, his or her family, employer or business associate has any interest in a matter being considered by the Committee, that member shall absent themselves from any discussion on that matter.

Remuneration and Expenses

- 27. Committee members shall serve without remuneration.
- 28. Committee members shall be reimbursed reasonable and necessary expenses that arise directly out of the performance of their duties.

Severability

- 30. If a section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph or phrase of this bylaw is for any reason declared invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

READ A FIRST TIME this 25th day of August , 2003.

READ A SECOND TIME this 25th day of August , 2003.

READ A THIRD TIME this 25th day of August , 2003.

ADOPTED this 25th day of August , 2003.

Raj Kahlon
Chair

Paul R. Edgington
Secretary

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of By-law No. 848 cited as “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Electoral Area C Agricultural Advisory Committee By-law No. 848-2003” as adopted by the Regional Board August 25, 2003.

Paul R. Edgington
Secretary